

105.1117 DT/Sipel

New Brunswick, N.J.
October 5, 1926

RE: GEORGE SIPEL STATEMENT

In my report of September 15, 1926, covering interview which Mr. Watson and I had with George Sipel, reference was made to a fire on the farm of one Merrinauth or Meranaus as having occurred on the night of September 16, 1922.

I saw Sipel yesterday and he informed me that the fire to which he referred had occurred on the farm adjoining the one which he now occupies. I visited this farm and learned that it belongs to Max Marinov.

Mrs. Marinov informed me that the fire occurred on the night of either September 14, 1922 or September 16, 1922. She is not sure which date, but informed me that her insurance agent, Philip H. Bruskin, of 86 Church Street, could give me all the information. She further stated that several weeks ago she had been visited by several men who informed her that they were from the Prosecutor's office at Somerville. They had asked her the same questions as I did and she had given them the same information.

I visited Bruskin's office. He was away but the young lady in charge informed me that they only keep correspondence for a few years back. After a search of the office files she said that all records for the year 1922 had been destroyed. However she had an entry in a small memo book as follows: "Max Marinov. Paid 11/9/22. Claim 9/15/22. Washington Underwriters. Amount Paid \$4471.44." She claimed that this record indicated that the fire had occurred on September 15, 1922. Further that the Washington Underwriters acted as agents for the National Liberty Insurance Company of America and, while the Underwriters were now out of business, she would write immediately to the insurance company and secure a complete copy of the claim filed by Marinov. She says she will probably have this for me by Wednesday or Thursday of this week.

She claims that they have had no inquiry from the Prosecutor's office for this information.

Respectfully yours,

David Thompson